

## February 28, 2018 Weekly Advocacy Digest

The digest contains:

- Upcoming Events - single date events to put on your calendar
- Recurring Events - events that repeat every week or month
- But wait, there's more...- action items, news, announcements, articles

❖Denotes new listing since last week

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Ways to be prepared for actions if Mueller or Rosenstein fired

##### (1) Nobody is Above the Law (INDIVISIBLE SF EVENT, emergency action)

**Date/Time TBD, Civic Center Plaza, San Francisco**

If Trump finds a way to remove Robert Mueller and/or shuts down the Russian investigation, we will respond by taking to the streets IMMEDIATELY. Should this event happen, we will send out notifications and begin an instant mobilization. Donald Trump is publicly considering firing special counsel Robert Mueller, the person leading the Department of Justice investigation of possible illegal actions by Donald Trump and members of his presidential campaign, and the efforts to conceal those activities. This would be a constitutional crisis for our country. It would demand an immediate and unequivocal response to show that we will not tolerate abuse of power from Donald Trump. Our response in the minutes and hours following a power grab will dictate what happens next, and whether Congress—the only body with the constitutional power and obligation to rein Trump in from his rampage—will do anything to stand up to him. That's why we're preparing to hold emergency "Nobody is Above the Law" rallies around the country in the event they are needed. [San Francisco MoveOn event page](#). If you want to get emergency texts from MoveOn, **text ALERT to 668 366**.

(2) [trumpisnotabovethelaw.org](http://trumpisnotabovethelaw.org)

(3) [Resistbot](#), a tool which helps us connect with our senators and representatives, is offering a streamlined way to help take action, should Special Counsel Mueller be fired. If we text "mueller" to 50409 on our cell phones, Resistbot will tell us where our nearest rapid response rally will be and will help us RSVP for the event so that we can be notified ASAP when it's time to take action. To be safe, you can also sign up at the actual [site](#). Remember, the same goes if Rosenstein is let go. - From [Rogan's List, January 31](#).

#### Conversations for the Common Good: The Race for the Second Most Important Office in the Country

All events 5-7 pm, McLaren Conference Center, #250, University of San Francisco, 2130 Fulton Street, San Francisco

The inaugural series in association with the McCarthy Center's 15th Anniversary, inviting accurate and inclusive voices to the challenges of serving the public good. This February, the Center invites candidates running in the **2018** California gubernatorial election to share their voice. With Politico California's David Siders and Carla Marinucci.

Conversation Dates

Remaining events

**Thursday, March 1** - John Cox, businessman

**Thursday, March 22** - John Chiang, California State Treasurer

Admission is free. Questions? Please contact Beth Gonzales, Program Assistant for the Leo T. McCarthy Center for Public Service and the Common Good, [bbgonzales@usfca.edu](mailto:bbgonzales@usfca.edu). Information and registration [here](#).

### **EPA Listening Session to Oppose Rollback of the Clean Power Plan**

**Wednesday, February 28, 2-3 pm**

San Francisco Main Library, Koret Auditorium, 30 Grove Street, San Francisco

Public · Hosted by Indivisible Berkeley

More information [here](#). RSVP to Phyllis Rothman, [rothmanp@hotmail.com](mailto:rothmanp@hotmail.com)

### **How Secure Are the Elections in Contra Costa County? Promoting Election Integrity and Voting Rights**

**Wednesday, February 28, 7-9 pm**

Rialto Cinemas Cerrito. 10070 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

Sponsored by El Cerrito Progressives

Landry Wildwind will share the information she has gathered since the 2016 election on election security in the US, and California's election security efforts. Recent changes in state law encourage Vote by Mail, sending a ballot to every registered voter for the first time. Hear the pros and cons about this change, as well as other efforts in Sacramento to make elections more secure, more representative of voter preferences and more inclusive. Voting Rights: Is vote suppression a problem in Contra Costa County? Landry will be encouraging concerned citizens in El Cerrito to join her in actively observing the vote processing in Martinez before and after the June primary, as recommended by election activists, to make the process more accountable. Is the Contra Costa County Clerk-Recorder-Registrar, Joseph E. Canciamilla doing a good job? Find out what Landry has learned about how this official works with community activists on issues of voter registration, education and maximization of voting, particularly in communities of color. And help plan a campaign in El Cerrito to reach out and encourage residents to register, educate themselves, and vote! RSVP on Nextdoor [here](#).

### **❖Students: Know Your Rights! ACLU Training**

**Thursday, March 1, 5 pm PST**

You'll hear from student leaders and members of the ACLU legal team on our constitutional right to free speech and expression, and what it means for students who want to speak out. We'll also share some details on how to report any possible First Amendment violations so that our team can track what's going on around the country. We're inspired by the leadership and courage that students across the country have shown in response to the tragic shooting at Stoneman High School. Whether you're a young person or a parent, teacher, school staff or ally, we hope you'll join us to learn about students' rights. Register for the call [here](#).

### **Backpack Full of Cash: A Film Exploring the Real Cost of Privatizing American Schools**

**Thursday, March 1, 5:30 pm, pizza; 6 pm film, plus post-film conversation**

Longfellow Middle School Auditorium, 1500 Derby Street, Berkeley

Sponsored by Berkeley Federation of Teachers

Film information [here](#). Tickets \$5-10 (sliding scale) can be purchased at the door

### **San Francisco Young Women's Political Leadership Summit**

**March 3, 10 am-3 pm**

Google Community Space, 188 The Embarcadero, San Francisco

Meet with elected officials, learn from policy experts, hear from dynamic speakers, snag an internship and meet your future mentor. More information and tickets (\$15) [here](#).  
Sponsored by [Ignite National](#)

### ❖**No Ban, No Wall: State and Local Advocacy and Legislative Efforts to Protect Our Immigrant Community (webinar)**

**March 3, noon-1:15 pm**

Sponsored by The Immigration Section of the Barristers Club and the American Immigration Lawyers Association of Northern California

Speakers: Jeff Adachi, Public Defender, City and County of San Francisco; Lisa Pickoff-White Data Journalist and Senior Producer, KQED; Niloufar Khonsari, Executive Director, Pangea Topics

- What programs have started or become more active in the last year?
- What are the current trends with regards to enforcement efforts and sanctuary cities?
- What advocacy efforts have been most successful and what are the most critical areas that still need to be addressed?
- What legislative efforts are California and local entities pursuing?

Legal Services. MCLE Credits - 1 H

Register for Webcast [here](#).

### **SHETalks WETalk Workshop**

**Saturday-Sunday, March 3-4, 10 am-4 pm**

Heartsourse, Berkeley (address not given)

[SHE talks WE talk](#) is a powerful and transformational moment when women come together for two days to talk productively about race and racism. A weekend workshop where you learn how to be a strong and effective ally and accomplice for women/people of color. All women are welcome. We need to learn how to have productive conversations about racism

ALL participants must read *Antagonists, Advocates and Allies: The White Woman's Guide for Becoming Allies with Black Women*. After you register a copy of the book will be shipped to you. Tickets (\$350) and registration [here](#).

### ❖**Stop Deportations: Rally and March to Defend Immigrants**

**Monday, March 5, 5:30-8:30 pm**

Hosted by [Free SF](#) and [Bay Resistance](#)

San Francisco Federal Building Join us to defend our immigrant communities!

March 5 is the initial expiration date for DACA that the Trump administration has set. Because of community organizing and legal advocacy, the date has been suspended. As the White House continues to threaten our immigrant communities, DACA is still in jeopardy, and many TPS holders' lives hang in the balance.

### **Arlie Hochschild: Anger and Mourning on the American Right**

**Monday, March 5, 5:30 pm check-in, 6:30 pm program, 7:30 pm book signing**

The Commonwealth Club, 110 The Embarcadero, San Francisco

Since the 2016 election, America's great political divide seems to be getting wider. Democrats and Republicans have grown further apart, and the national conversation has shifted away from cooperation and compromise. Renowned sociologist Arlie Hochschild seeks to find common ground in our desire for community, our embrace of family and our hopes for a better future that we can all share. In *Strangers in Their Own Land*, Hochschild embarks on a journey from her liberal hometown of Berkeley, California, deep into Louisiana bayou country—a

stronghold of the conservative Right. She challenges the idea that people are voting against their own interests. Instead, Hochschild draws on her expert knowledge of sociology to help us understand what it feels like to live in "red" America and how we can grow into a united America. Tickets (\$8-50) and more information [here](#).

### ❖“Transforming California from Red to Blue: How Community Organizing Changed the Political Landscape”

**Tuesday, March 6, 5-7 pm**

Oakstop, 1721 Broadway, Oakland

Hosted by [UC Berkeley Institute of Governmental Studies](#), [Haas Institute for a Fair and Inclusive Society](#) and [Courage Campaign](#)

The film documents the success of social movements in California in creating a more progressive political atmosphere in the state, pushing for policies and legislation that challenged dog whistle politics, xenophobia and structural racialization. Through interviews with key movement leaders and historical footage, the 10-minute video documents an important chapter in the California story. Following the film, a panel of activists will discuss the video and the significance of the gains made, as well as the challenges ahead. Free. Information [here](#).

### ❖Restore the Vote: Overturning Voter Suppression

**Wednesday, March 7, 6:30-8:30 pm**

Kehilla Community Synagogue, 1300 Grand Ave, Piedmont

Hosted by [SURJ - Oakland/Bay Area](#)

This workshop will provide the context for the Voting Restoration & Democracy Act of 2018, including essential understanding of voter suppression history in the United States and California. Learn concrete actions you can take over the next several months to help restore voting rights to 162,000 incarcerated and formerly incarcerated individuals in California. This effort is led by [Initiate Justice](#). RSVP [here](#).

### ❖Anita Hill

**Saturday, March 10, 7-9:30 pm**

Oakland Marriott City Center, 1001 Broadway, Oakland

Ms. Anita Hill is an University Professor of Law, Public Policy and Women’s Studies, and leading proponent for women’s rights and workforce equity. MLK Jr. Freedom Center presents 2018 Barbara Lee & Elihu Harris Lecture Series featured speaker Ms. Anita Hill. Ms. Hill is the author of three books, *Speaking Truth to Power*, *Reimagining Equality: Stories of Gender, Race, and Finding Home* and a legacy tribute on contributions of the Honorable Thurgood Marshall. She became an attorney-adviser to Clarence Thomas at the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, then at the U.S. EEOC. Hill later openly testified to Thomas’ workforce sexual harassment history, making her a national figure for women on matters relating to workforce bias and fairness. More information [here](#). RSVP by calling (510) 434-3988

### ❖Dignity for Incarcerated Women

**Tuesday, March 12, noon-1 pm**

Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP

405 Howard Street, 10th Floor, San Francisco

Sponsored by the Bay Area Lawyer Chapter of the American Constitution Society (ACS)

Learn about the “Dignity for Incarcerated Women” Campaign, a program of the #cut50 initiative founded by author Van Jones and former ACS Board Member Jessica Jackson Sloan, which aims to reduce the prison population while making our communities safer. Senators

Cory Booker and Elizabeth Warren introduced the Dignity for Incarcerated Women Act - quickly joined by Senators Kamala Harris and Richard Durbin. The Dignity Act seeks common sense reforms to how women are treated in the federal prison system. The United States holds 30% of the world's incarcerated women. We shackle them while giving birth. We often place them hundreds of miles away from their children - further inhibiting their healthy development. And we force them to make draconian choices, like whether to use commissary funds to call home, or purchase sanitary pads. We prey upon those who have been traumatized, and instead of releasing them back into society rehabilitated, we re-traumatize them. This rapidly growing segment of our prison population is often left out of conversations around criminal justice reform, but deserves our attention. Brown bag lunch. Information and registration [here](#).

### **Q&A with Senator Feinstein's State Director**

**Friday, March 9, 12:30-3:30 pm**

Fruitvale-San Antonio Senior Center, 3301 East 12th Street, Oakland

Meeting with staff in person is one of the most effective ways to influence our representatives. And staff has told us that they find these public meetings particularly helpful in their work of reporting back to the senator what her constituents want. So please come and bring your questions and concerns for her state director to answer and/or pass along to his boss. Free and open to the public. [RSVP preferred](#), but not necessary. Information and registration [here](#).

### **❖#NationalSchoolWalkout**

**Wednesday, March 14, 10 am**

Women's March Youth EMPOWER is calling for students, teachers, school administrators, parents and allies to take part in a #NationalSchoolWalkout for 17 minutes at 10am across every time zone on March 14 to protest Congress' inaction to do more than tweet thoughts and prayers in response to the gun violence plaguing our schools and neighborhoods." More info [here](#) and [here](#). - From Rogan's List, February 26. From [Rogan's List, February 26](#)

### **❖Constitution in the Classroom**

**Wednesday, March 21, 6-7 pm**

Altshuler Berzon LLP, 177 Post Street, Suite 300, San Francisco

March 21 (San Francisco) or 22 (San Jose) training sessions for lawyers and law students

The Bay Area Lawyer Chapter of the American Constitution Society (ACS)

This spring, the Bay Area Lawyer Chapter will be volunteering at local schools from April 16 to April 27, 2018 as part of the Constitution in the Classroom program. Please consider joining us in spending an hour or two discussing the Constitution with students. First time volunteers should join us for one of the brief training sessions that will be held in San Francisco or San Jose. Information about how to sign up for one of these training sessions is below. Returning volunteers are always welcome and will receive an email in mid-March about specific opportunities. Constitution in the Classroom brings ACS members into primary and secondary classrooms to raise awareness of fundamental constitutional principles. By spending as little as one hour teaching in a local classroom, you can excite young minds about their constitutional rights and responsibilities. Additional information on this volunteer opportunity [here](#). Participants may attend by phone. Please RSVP below and we will email you with dial-in information as March 21 approaches.

### **Rock the Congress**

**Saturday, March 24, 8:30am-5:30pm**

Balboa High School, 1000 Cayuga Ave., San Francisco

Rock the Congress is coming to San Francisco & Peninsula at It is a one-day conference that aims to provide Bay Area activists with training and skills to build a coalition of progressive organizations dedicated to winning elections and regain Democratic control in state and Congressional races. Rock The Congress is a PAC whose **purpose** is to maximize collaboration among Progressive organizations to win 2018 elections. Information and registration (\$25-\$100) [here](#) and email [sanfrancisco@rockthecongress.org](mailto:sanfrancisco@rockthecongress.org) with any questions.

## **March for Our Lives**

### **Saturday, March 24**

❖San Francisco, 1 pm, Civic Center. Information on [Facebook page](#).

❖Oakland, 10 am, location TBD. Information on [Facebook page](#).

Washington, D.C.

On March 24, the kids and families of March For Our Lives will take to the streets of Washington, DC to demand that their lives and safety become a priority. The collective voices of the March For Our Lives movement will be heard. [March For Our Lives](#) is created by, inspired by, and led by students across the country who will no longer risk their lives waiting for someone else to take action to stop the epidemic of mass school shootings that has become all too familiar. In the tragic wake of the seventeen lives brutally cut short in Florida, politicians are telling us that now is not the time to talk about guns. March For Our Lives believes the time is now.

❖The Parkland teens are raising money for the March 24, March for Our Lives organizing events, in which hundreds of thousands will be marching across the country demanding common sense gun reform. Donate [here](#).

## **DACA, Detention, Temporary Protected Status - Immigration Update**

### **Sunday, March 25, 1-3:15 pm**

1 networking, 1:30 panel presentation, 3:15 tables to learn more about immigrants' rights organizations and how you can help

Temple Beth El social hall, 1301 Oxford Street, Berkeley

Come hear about the realities facing our undocumented neighbors and how to get involved. Please RSVP to [immigrationworkshop2018@gmail.com](mailto:immigrationworkshop2018@gmail.com). Co-hosted by Temple Beth El, Kehilla Community Synagogue, Temple Sinai, and Chochmat HaLev

## **RECURRING EVENTS**

### **Voter Registration for New Citizens Swearing In Ceremony**

**Thursday, March 15, 10 am-12**

**Thursday, March 15, 2-4 pm**

**Thursday, April 19, 10 am-12**

**Thursday, April 19, 2-4 pm**

Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland

Register [here](#) for any of these dates. Make sure you are picking the morning or afternoon session you want to attend. You can sign up for either or both. (On Jan 11, we registered a total of 227 new voters between the two ceremonies.) New Citizens Swearing In Ceremony: Helping brand new Americans activate their citizenship by dregistering to vote is one of the most fulfilling activities we can participate in. From countries all over the world, they pour out of the Paramount Theater after taking the oath of allegiance to their new homeland, where we

welcome them with an offer to register to vote the same day. Look for a row of ironing boards on both sides of the entrance. No experience is necessary - we will train on site.

### **Evening of Action: Text Bank**

**First Tuesday of the month, 7-8:30 pm**

Drake's Dealership, 2325 Broadway Auto Row, Oakland

Hosted by [Indivisible East Bay](#)

Join Indivisible East Bay for food, drinks, socializing, and most importantly text-banking to support the resistance! We'll be using a system created by our partner, [Rapid Resist](#), to mobilize voters for local organizers' events around the country. They've recruited for organizations like the Dolores Huerta Foundation, Indivisible Jacksonville, and Working America, moving thousands to oppose the Trump administration's agenda. More information [here](#).

**Democracy Action.** Phone banks almost every week on current issues (i.e., DACA, budget.)

### **Free Citizenship Workshops**

**April 10, July 10, October 9, 9 am-2 pm**

Monument Crisis Center, 1990 Market Street, Concord

Sponsored by [International Rescue Committee](#)

American citizenship provides many privileges and protections: the right to vote, security against deportation, ability to bring more family to the U.S., increased job opportunities and more. Now's the time to apply. At this workshop, you will get help to complete your citizenship application (N-400) and fee waiver, if applicable. Your case will be reviewed by a Department of Justice accredited representative who can serve as your legal representative with USCIS, alert you to updates in your case, and provide you trusted guidance and advice throughout the entire naturalization process. All services are free! Registration is required. Register [online](#) by selecting a date above, or call (510) 852-8914

### **Indivisible East Bay All Member Meeting**

Last Sunday of the month, 1-3 pm

Sports Basement, 2727 Milvia Street, Berkeley

Join our monthly meeting for members and newcomers interested in opposing the Trump agenda! For more information, visit Sports Basement, Berkeley.

### **North Berkeley demonstration demanding higher taxes for the super-rich & big corporations**

**Mondays 5-6 pm**

Near the top of Solano Ave by the Oaks Theater, Berkeley

Come sing with OCCUPELLA or just hold a sign. RAIN CANCELS!

### **Living Graveyard Vigil for Peace**

**3rd Mondays, 12-1 pm**

Oakland Federal Building 1301 Clay

[Ecumenical Peace Institute](#)

### **Resistance Rally by the Grand Lake Theater, Oakland**

**Every Tuesday, 4:30-5:30 pm**

## [Indivisible East Bay](#)

### **Table with Indivisible Resistance Action East Bay at Rockridge BART**

**Every Thursday, 5-6 pm**

[Indivisible East Bay](#)

### **Rally for Peace**

**3rd Fridays from 2-3 pm**

Acton and University Avenues, Berkeley

Co-sponsored by Berkeley-East Bay Gray Panthers and neighborhood tenants

Bring determination and music! Bring our troops home NOW! Honk for Peace! Some fun in the sun! We sing songs, wave signs, and get passing cars and trucks to honk support. Signs are provided. All welcome. Wheelchair accessible. Info: Steve Geller 913-4682

### **Monthly Interfaith Vigils to Support Immigrant Detainees**

**First Saturday of the month, 11 am- 12 noon**

West County Detention Facility, 5555 Giant Highway, Richmond

We invite you to join our vigils each month as we gather to pray and bear witness to the pain, suffering, and separation of immigrant detainees, and to call for real and immediate immigration reform. <http://icir-clue.blogspot.com/p/action.html> If you would like to bring refreshments/coffee or greet visiting Spanish-speaking families, please contact [mnoriega@im4humanintegrity.org](mailto:mnoriega@im4humanintegrity.org) If you would like to be an occasional driver or housing host for released detainees through PRAP (Post-release accompaniment program), contact: [prap@centrolegal.org](mailto:prap@centrolegal.org)

### **Monthly Protest at Richmond Immigration Detention/County Jail**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Month, 11 am-12 noon**

[Let Our People Go](#)

West County Detention Facility, 5555 Giant Hwy, Richmond

Show solidarity with those locked inside West County Detention, which doubles as Contra Costa's jail and the Bay Area's ICE detention center. We must stand up for our community members whose human rights are violated by the current racist policies of intimidation/police brutality, incarceration, and deportation. Show your support for families visiting their loved ones as we affirm the dignity and rights of all members of our human family. Bring your noisemakers, signs, friends, family, and neighbors. Let Our People Go was initiated by members of the Kehilla Immigration Committee on the 2nd Sunday of every month at 11am, modeled in part on the first Saturday vigils held by our partners at Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity. The ongoing participation of Bend the Arc activists and regular attendees enriches the community circle. This one-hour protest is a way for more families with tweens/teens—especially those with citizenship privileges—to stand up for our peoples and bring more attention to this immoral site of internment right in our community. We aim to convey a sustained message of resistance to the right wing's racist, xenophobic, anti-Muslim, ableist, transphobic, homophobic, misogynist ramp up of authoritarian policing, detention, and deportation practices—if not now, when?

### [Lake Merritt Neighbors Organized for Peace](#)

**Sundays, 3 pm**



Walk around Lake Merritt. We start and end at the colonnade between Grand and Lakeshore Avenues on Embarcadero. near the Grand Lake Theater, across the street from the Lakeview Library, which is at 550 El Embarcadero, Oakland

### **Indivisible SF General Meeting**

Every Sunday, 4-6 pm

Urban Life Center next to St. Mark's Church (1111 O'Farrell @ Franklin)

RSVP [here](#).

### **ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union)**

#### **Berkeley/North East Bay Chapter**

**Monthly meeting-Third Wednesday of most months, 7 pm**

Sweet Basil Thai restaurant, 1736 Solano Avenue, Berkeley

Come early if you'd like to eat dinner with us.

Barbara Dilts [bdilts@redshift.com](mailto:bdilts@redshift.com) More information about this and chapter [here](#).

**Know Your Rights trainings** by Antonio Medrano, Chair of the Berkeley/North East Bay Chapter - For schedule of trainings go to Chapter [Facebook](#) page.

List of other ACLU chapters [here](#).

### **Barbara Lee Staff Office Hours**

**Every 1st & 3rd Thursday, 2-5 pm**

1470 Fruitvale Ave, Oakland

Staff only - Rep. Lee not in attendance. [here](#).

### **Action Checklist for Americans of Conscience (Jen Hoffman)**

Turning bad news into positive action: No matter your political stripe, Americans are good, generous people who pull together in a pinch. Katrina. New York. Sandy Hook. When the chips are down, we look out for each other.

Now is no different. In the Action Checklist for Americans of Conscience, you get (1) clear, hype-free actions to take from home that support democracy, freedom, and equality for all Americans; (2) Acts of Gratitude praise elected officials when they do something good for all people, no matter which side of the aisle; (3) Good News of progress for democracy and people doing kind, heartwarming things for each other; and (4) reading list of in-depth articles on important issues. [Get the weekly Action Checklist for Americans of Conscience](#).

### **Rogan's List/RiseStronger**

A comprehensive weekly digest of news and actions. Sign up [here](#).

### **Wall of Us**

Four concrete acts of resistance curated and personalized for you each week. Sign up [here](#).

### **One Thing You Can Do (OTYCD)**

The election of Donald Trump calls for action. But where to start? There's so much to push back against. It's overwhelming. [One Thing You Can Do](#) features a daily action item that you can pursue. You don't have to stop at one thing, but it's certainly a start. New OTYCD posts go

up between 6 am and 9 am EST on weekdays, and between 8 am and 10 am EST on weekend days. OTYCD exists to help you focus. It attempts to select the most effective thing you can do that day to push back against Trump. If you think today's action item is not the most effective thing you can do, that's fine. Go to 'Want to Do More?' for links and resources where you can find other suggestions for things you can do.

### **Postcards for America**

Postcards for America has created some postcards we can print at home or at a service to distribute and get the word out about both Postcards for America and Postcards to Voters. From their [website](#): It's a new day in the USA & we must take action and fight for our rights! Let YOUR Senators & Reps know your STATE of mind! We've been doing this since 10 days after the Election - and it's WORKING! ACTION: We postcard to each of our own Senators & Reps at National & State level. Postcard them about Suggested Topics which are kept updated. Postcards for America gives you PC2As (Postcarders Calls to Action) on key bills, topics and issues so you can write them about your concerns. Addresses, background information and even Suggested Wording provided. (See the links under the Icons by Topic.) Remind your Representatives, at all levels, that they are representing you and let them know that you are watching! This IS making a difference! You can make a difference! ALL 50 STATES have members in the Postcards for America Facegroup [here](#).

### **Indivisible Berkeley**

[This page](#) lists actions you can take from the comfort of your home! We recommend making a habit of taking one action per day or one action per week.

### **BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE...**

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

##### **❖Mentors Needed for College-Bound Oakland Youth**

Ready to make a difference for a college-bound Oakland youth? Join our mentor team! At [East Bay College Fund](#), our students graduate at 4x the national average. We are looking for professionals with a college degree who are passionate about supporting first-generation college-bound students from Oakland Unified School District. Learn more about what it takes to increase the graduation rate for low-income students. Attend an information session. Multiple dates and times available in March. For more information, please contact [Sam Stone](#), Volunteer Coordinator.

##### **❖Become an Organizing for Action (OFA) Community Engagement Fellow**

OFA supporters are change-makers. We're bold. We speak out for progress. And we fight for change by getting organized. Right now, we need folks like you—smart, passionate people—more than ever. The Fellowship equips new organizers with the tools and training to bring people together to address root challenges facing local communities. For six weeks, Fellows learn from experienced organizers and trainers through weekly online trainings. Fellows get a deep dive into the theory of change behind community organizing, then, when possible, work side-by-side with experienced community organizers where they live.

Throughout the program, Fellows are challenged to build community relationships, develop fundamental organizing skills, and explore their leadership potential.

What you'll do as a Community Engagement Fellow:

- Participate in a Fellows orientation
- Attend online training every Wednesday at 7:30pm CT from 3/28 to 5/2

- Complete weekly assignments after each online training

Application process and timeline:

- Application deadline: Wednesday, March 14, 2018**

- Acceptance will occur on a rolling basis

- Program orientation training: Saturday, March 24, 2018

More information and application [here](#).

## **GUN CONTROL ADVOCACY**

### **❖Ask Companies to Dump the NRA**

While elected officials are still in bed with the NRA, companies are beginning to split. From First Omaha Bank (who canceled the NRA Visa Card) to Avis (who revoked the NRA loyalty program) to Chubb Insurance (who will no longer be underwriting NRA policies), the NRA is getting dumped. This week let's ensure that the heartbreak keeps growing for the NRA by focusing on cutting off purchasing power for buyers of assault rifles. PayPal and Apple Pay already won't process purchases for firearms, all-of-us must ask other credit card companies to follow suit.

#BoycottNRA - From [Wall of Us](#), Week of February 25

The NRA is being supported by these companies: Come for the discounts, stay for the opposition to common sense gun laws. - [Think Progress](#) has been keeping track of the corporate changes regarding NRA partnership and we can sign up to receive updates (within link – and there's also a great graphic showing progress with companies). Article [here](#). While an NRA boycott won't substitute for gun control legislation, we need to keep the pressure on the big companies like FedEx (800.463.3339 or @FedEx ), Amazon ((206) 266-1000 or @Amazon), and Visa (800-847-2911 or @Visa) to cease doing business with the NRA. - From [Rogan's List, February 26](#)

### **❖Stop NRATv**

Tell streaming services: Stop the NRA from spreading its hateful rhetoric and DUMP NRATV! Everytown for Gun Safety. Information and petition [here](#).

### **Six Things You Can Do About Gun Violence NOW** - From RiseStronger

1. Tell Congress to reject the NRAs agenda. Text REJECT to 644-33 and Everytown will connect you with your representative, or try using 5 Calls script [here](#).

2. Join your local chapter of [Moms Demand Action](#).

3. Look into measures such as "Extreme Risk Protection Order" laws. These laws can empower those who are close to an individual in crisis to ask a judge to temporarily take away the person's guns. You can read more about ERPOs at [The Brady Campaign](#).

4. Use this [tool](#) from Everytown for Gun Safety to see what the gun laws are in your state and what you can do to change that.

5. Let's call our members of Congress AND our state legislators and ask them what they're doing to 1) ban bump stocks, 2) stop concealed carry reciprocity from undermining state gun control laws (Congress only), 3) put universal background controls in place and 4) promote the use of gun safes, trigger locks and smart gun technology that can keep us safe.

6. Consider volunteering for and donating to some of the organizations fighting for common sense gun control, like [Everytown for Gun Safety](#) and [Moms Demand Action](#), [the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence](#), [Giffords](#), [C:\Users\Valerie\Documents\Political Action\Digest\Digest 2018\<https://www.sandyhookpromise.org/urrent Sandy Hook Promise or Guns Down](#). And we can keep up with the latest developments in the fight to protect our kids from guns by subscribing to the free daily e-newsletter from [The Trace](#) [The Trace is an

independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit newsroom dedicated to shining a light on America's gun violence crisis.]

### **Every Town for Gun Advocacy**

Everytown is a movement of Americans working together to end gun violence and build safer communities. For too long, change has been thwarted by the Washington gun lobby and by leaders who refuse to take common-sense steps that will save lives. But something is changing. More than 3 million mayors, moms, cops, teachers, survivors, gun owners, and everyday Americans have come together to make their own communities safer. Together, we are fighting for the changes that we know will save lives. Everytown starts with you, and it starts in your town.

### **Moms Demand Action** <https://momsdemandaction.org/>

Moms Demand Action supports the 2nd Amendment, but we believe common-sense solutions can help decrease the escalating epidemic of gun violence that kills too many of our children and loved ones every day. Whether the gun violence happens in urban Chicago, suburban Virginia, or rural Texas, we must act now on new and stronger gun laws and policies to protect our children. Moms Demand Action envisions a country where all children and families are safe from gun violence. Our nonpartisan grassroots movement has grown to include a chapter in every state across the country. We are educating, motivating, and mobilizing supporters to take action that will result in stronger laws and policies to save lives.

### **Sandy Hook Promise**

Build a national movement of parents, schools and community organizations engaged and empowered to deliver gun violence prevention programs and mobilize for the passage of sensible state and national policy. We will accomplish this by building a national base, organizing at a community level, developing and delivering mental health & wellness programs, advocating for state and federal policy.

### **Three Things You Can Do, Right Now, to Fight Gun Violence.** Article by Senator Chris Murphy (D. Conn.) - Lists organizations.

### **Ask Our Mayors to Use Their Firepower to Stop Gun Violence** - From <C:\Users\Valerie\Documents\Political Action\Digest\Digest 2018\https\wallofus.orgWall of Us, Week of February 18>

We must fight for common-sense gun safety laws, and we have many weapons in our arsenal. While we need leadership at the Federal level, with a Republican Congress and a man in the oval office who can't use the word "gun", let's focus at the local level. Remember that unlike governors, Mayors of major cities in the US are overwhelmingly democrats. They have the power to advocated for divestment of their pension funds in guns, like NY City Mayor DeBlasio has done. This week, All-of-Us must ask our mayors to use their firepower to keep our cities safe. Here's how:

- 1 Call your mayor and ask him/her to join the Mayors Against Illegal Guns campaign by Everytown for Gun Safety.
- 2 Ask your mayor whether he/she is advocating for your city to divest from guns. If no efforts are underway, attend your next City Council meeting and raise the issue.

3 Visit <https://everytown.org/throwthemout/> for more ways to take action, including attending local events.

### **Divest From Guns** - From [Wall of Us](#), Week of February 18

We've said it before, but another mass shooting has triggered this sobering reminder-- you are probably investing in guns. That's right, those of us who are saving for retirement or our kids' college likely have gun stocks (which are highly lucrative) in our portfolios. That's because, as the chart below shows, some of the largest investors own considerable shares in these gun companies.

### **Students Demand Action**

High school and college students from across the country are teaming up with Everytown for Gun Safety Action Fund and Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America to launch a new initiative – Students Demand Action.

### **Urge Banks to Stop Credit Card Use for Gun Sales**

On Monday, the NY Times' Andrew Ross Sorkin floated an idea worth our taking up; if Congress won't curb the sales of guns, how about the banks? Apparently, PayPal, Square, Stripe, and Apple Pay will not allow their services to be used for the sale of firearms. Why not Visa, Mastercard, and American Express? This kind of restriction is not unprecedented; just this month, JPMorgan Chase, Citigroup and Bank of America barred the use of their cards to buy cryptocurrencies. Let's point out to the credit card companies that they need us and we don't want them to facilitate gun sales: Visa 1-800-847-2911; Mastercard 1-800-307-7309; American Express 1-800-528-4800. Read article [here](#). - From [Rogan's List, February 21](#).

❖**These are the banks financing the assault weapons industry: More than a dozen institutions are bankrolling mass shootings.** - [Think Progress](#), February 26. Article [here](#).

## **NEWS**

### ❖**Warning of ICE action, Oakland mayor takes Trump resistance to new level** - SFGate, February 25

The relationship between U.S. immigration officials and California's liberal leaders soured long ago, but Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf's decision to warn potential targets of federal arrest that an immigration sweep could be imminent was an extraordinary escalation. Schaaf said she issued the alert Saturday night after receiving confidential tips from "credible sources" who revealed that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, known as ICE, was planning arrests across the Bay Area as soon as Sunday. Read article [here](#).

### ❖**Judge: California county's redistricting diluted Latino vote** - Associated Press, February 24

Election districts for the board of supervisors in a Central California county illegally dilute the voting power of Latinos and deprive them of an opportunity to elect candidates of their choice, a federal judge said Friday. U.S. District Judge Dale Drozd struck down Kern County's 2011 redistricting plan, saying it was not "equally open to participation by Latino voters." Read article [here](#).

## ❖**Winner-take-all electoral college system is unconstitutional, say suits led by Boies**

Most states use a “winner take all” approach to Electoral College votes rather than a percentage based on the popular vote. “A coalition of prominent law firms and professors has filed four federal lawsuits claiming the winner-take-all system of electoral college voting distorts presidential campaigns and violates the U.S. Constitution.” Read ABA (American Bar Association) article [here](#).- From [Rogan’s List, February 26](#).

## **RESOURCES**

### ❖**The Weekly List**

Experts in authoritarianism advise us to keep a list of things subtly changing around us, so we’ll remember. Amy Siskind is keeping that list for us. Read The Weekly List [here](#) and sign up on Facebook and Twitter. - From [Rogan’s List, February 26](#).

## **ARTICLES**

### ❖**The First Step to Hack-Proofing Our Elections** - Politico, February 15

Our out-of-date voting systems need an upgrade, now. Read article [here](#).

### ❖**Report: Anti-Semitic Incidents Jumped Unprecedented Amount in 2017** -

Slate.com, February 27. Article [here](#).

“As long as people are people, democracy, in the full sense of the word, will always be no more than an ideal. One may approach it as one would the horizon in ways that may be better or worse, but it can never be fully attained. In this sense, you, too, are merely approaching democracy. You have thousands of problems of all kinds, as other countries do. But you have one great advantage: You have been approaching democracy uninterrupted for more than 200 years, and your journey toward the horizon has never been disrupted by a totalitarian system.” Václav Havel's speech to the United States Congress, February 1990

Dedicated to Dianne Walker (1952-2017)